

Message Text

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ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 PA-01

USIA-06 PRS-01 SP-02 /028 W

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R 131925Z SEP 76

FM AMEMBASSY LIMA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1769

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT, PE

SUBJECT: POSSIBLE REOPENING OF PERIODICAL "CARETAS"

REF: LIMA 7198

1. IN RESPONSE TO A DIRECT QUESTION ON THE REOPENING OF THE TWELVE MAGAZINES CLOSED ON JULY 2, GOP PRIME MINISTER ARBULU STATED, IN AN EXCLUSIVE INTERVIEW WITH PABLO PIACENTINI OF MEXICO'S "EXCELSIOR" (AUGUST 8), THAT "THEIR REOPENING WILL TAKE PLACE AT A CONVENIENT TIME AND WITHOUT REGARD TO THEIR POLITICAL LEANINGS".

2. THE EMBASSY HAS LEARNED THAT ENRIQUE ZILERI, DIRECTOR OF THE INTERNATIONALLY-RECOGNIZED MAGAZINE "CARETAS", RECEIVED A CALL AUGUST 8 FROM A DIRECTOR GENERAL OF THE CENTRAL OFFICE OF INFORMATION, INFORMING HIM THAT HE COULD REOPEN HIS MAGAZINE AS OF SEPTEMBER 16.

3. "CARETAS" HAS BEEN CLOSED SINCE MARCH 20, 1975, AND ZILERI EXILED UNTIL MAY OF THIS YEAR. SINCE THAT TIME HE HAS BEEN ATTEMPTING TO REOPEN. IN AUGUST HE ERRONEOUSLY FELT HE HAD A "GREEN LIGHT". NOW HE IS CONVINCED.

4. ZILERI HAS INFORMED THE EMBASSY THAT HE IS PREPARING AN ARTICLE ON THE POSSIBLE PURCHASE OF SOVIET AIRCRAFT BY THE GOP. IF ZILERI GOES AHEAD WITH THIS STORY WHEN "CARETAS" LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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REAPPEARS, AND DEPENDING ON HOW IT IS PRESENTED, IT WOULD BE

AN EARLY INDICATION OF THE EXTENT OF GOP TOLERANCE FOR AN INDEPENDENT PRESS. CARETAS MIGHT PRESENT THE POSSIBLE PURCHASE IN A FAVORABLE LIGHT. ZILERI OPINED TO EMBOFF THAT THE GOP WOULD SHOW ITSELF TO BE A WILY NEGOTIATOR IF IT COULD SECURE BOTH BANK LOANS FROM THE WEST AND AIRCRAFT FROM THE SOVIETS.
DEAN

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptoning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: MAGAZINES, OPENING OF OFFICES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 13 SEP 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: powellba
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976LIMA08259
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760345-0826
From: LIMA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760967/aaaacfmk.tel
Line Count: 67
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION ARA
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 76 LIMA 7198
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: powellba
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 26 JUL 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <26 JUL 2004 by saccheem>; APPROVED <28 OCT 2004 by powellba>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: POSSIBLE REOPENING OF PERIODICAL "CARETAS"
TAGS: PINT, SOPN, PE
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006